

SUBJECT: AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER AUTHORIZATION

Date: 11/01/2010

- I. **Authority:** Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.204, 1797.206 and 1797.218.
- II. **Purpose:** To define the process for authorization of air ambulance service provider agencies operation by the County of San Diego Emergency Medical Services (EMS).
- III. **Policy:** All air ambulance service provider agencies operating within the County of San Diego EMS system shall be authorized by EMS prior to operation, and must operate within the standards defined within the San Diego County Ambulance Ordinance.
- A. To be authorized to provide EMS air ambulance support the provider shall:
1. Provide services on a continuous twenty-four (24) hour basis, and
 2. Maintain medical flight crews as provided for by each aircraft classification, and
 3. Function under local medical control, and
 4. Comply with the Emergency Medical Services Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement process, and
 5. Submit prehospital reports as per County of San Diego Division of EMS Policy S-601, and
 6. Participate in community education programs and first responder orientation when requested, and
 7. Submit to EMS evidence of compliance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 8, Section 100302 (Medical Flight Crew Personnel Training) and 100306 (Space and Equipment), and
 8. Enter into a written agreement with the County as an air ambulance service provider, and

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9. Submit to EMS verification of dispatch capability, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, capable of maintaining constant communication with the aircraft, and
 10. Comply with all applicable Federal and State Air Regulations.
- B. The County of San Diego may revoke or suspend authorization of an air ambulance provider for failure to comply with applicable policies, procedures, protocols and regulations.

IV. Procedures:

- A. Agencies requesting authorization must submit a written request to the County of San Diego EMS to include, but not be limited to:
1. Number and type of aircraft to be authorized.
 2. Patient capacity of each aircraft.
 3. Level of patient care to be provided by each aircraft.
 4. Proposed staffing for each aircraft.
 5. Statement of demonstration need.
- B. Once authorized; the provider agency shall notify the local EMS Agency of
1. Any foreseen or unforeseen change in or disruption of service (i.e., decrease in number of aircraft available, staffing patterns or patient care capabilities).
 2. Documentation of satisfactory compliance with personnel requirements, equipment and supplies.

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